

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A heat fixing apparatus, in which a recording material on which an unfixed image has been formed is caused to pass through a fixing nip formed by a
5 fixing member and a pressurizing member that are in pressure contact with each other so that the unfixed toner is fixed as a permanent image, comprises an electro-conductive member to be in contact with the recording material disposed
10 downstream of the fixing nip with respect to the recording material conveying direction, wherein a bias voltage is applied to at least one of the fixing member and the electro-conductive member. With the above-described structure, in the case
15 that a state in which recording materials are consecutively fed continues, the bias voltage applied while the recording materials pass through the fixing nip portion is gradually decreased in accordance with the number of heated recording
20 materials. Thus, smeared image trailing edge upon fixing is prevented from occurring, and the amount of toner adhering to the surface of the fixing member or the surface of the pressurizing member is reduced, so that image errors such as toner
25 contamination are prevented from occurring.